

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 02095 190156Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EPA-01 OES-06 CEQ-01 PA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 (ISO) W
-----190217 105577 /20
P 190120Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0440

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 2095

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: IBWC, SENV, PBOR, MX
SUBJECT: US-MEXICAN BORDER SANITATION AGREEMENT

REF: (A) FEB 4 NOTE OT DREYFUSS RE MTG ON BORDER
SANITATION AGREEMENT
(B) 76 MEXICO 16156

SCICOUNS FRIEDMAN HAS REVIEWED REF (A) NOTE WITH EMBASSY
POL OFFICERS. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO NUMBERED
PARAS IN NOTE.

1. GOVT TO GOVT AGREEMENT THROUGH IBWC ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF 1944 WATER TREATY RE BORDER SANITATION WOULD BE HIGHLY
DESIRABLE.

2. IF AGREEMENT LIMITED WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS, OTHER
ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS CAN BE HANDLED THROUGH REACTIVATION
OF US-MEXICAN WORKING GROUP ON BORDER ENVIRONMENTAL
PROBLEMS. NEW HEALTH MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT, HUMBERTO ROMERO-ALVAREZ, IS
SANITARY ENGINEER WITH LONG EXPERIENCE IN US-MEXICAN BORDER
HEALTH MATTERS. HE HAS BEEN ACTIVE MEMBER OF US-MEXICO
BORDER PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION FOR SEVERAL DECADES,
IS THE AUTHOR OF QUOTE HEALTH WITHOUT BOUNDARIES
UNQUOTE, A HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION PUBLISHED IN
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 02095 190156Z

1975, AND IS WELL DISPOSED TOWARD U. S. IN MEETING
WITH SCICOUNS, ROMERO APOLOGIZED FOR PRESS TREATMENT
(REF (B)) OF BORDER HEALTH PROBLEMS, COMMENTING THAT
PRESS HAD BASED THEIR STORIES ON OUTDATED INFORMATION
AND THAT PROBLEM HAD BEEN RESOLVED SEVERAL YEARS AGO.
HE LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING WITH SENIOR DEPT AND EPA
OFFICIALS AND TO DEVELOPING CONGENIAL WORKING RELATION-

SHIPS. EMBASSY SUGGESTS WORKING GROUP MEETING BE SCHEDULED AS SOON AS DEPT AND NEW EPA PRINCIPALS ARE READY.

3. ROMERO CONSIDERS WATER POLLUTION MOST SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM IN MEXICO AND INTENDS GIVE THIS MATTER HIGHEST PRIORITY. IT THEREFORE POSSIBLE THAT GOM MAY IN TIME BE WILLING SET WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AS RIGOROUS AS OUR OWN.

4. EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED RECEIVE FOR REVIEW PROPOSED AGREEMENT.

5. EMBASSY PREPARED AT APPROPRIATE TIME DISCUSS INFORMALLY WITH MEXICAN ENVIRONMENTAL UNDERSECRETARIAT AND WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, TERMS WHICH MAY BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOM.
JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, WATER POLLUTION CONTROLS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 3274898
Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: SENV, PBOR, MX, IBWC
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Review Markings:
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